

## ABSTRACT

Method and apparatus for cutting a substrate using laser irradiation.

- 5           The invention relates to a method and apparatus for cutting a substrate using laser irradiation. A laser beam is scanned over a substrate. The beam ablates a first layer of the substrate. The beam is then refocused onto the newly revealed second layer and a further pass is performed. The process is repeated until complete separation occurs. The method and apparatus are particularly suitable for singulation of IC packages.

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